

in office, are not tolerated, in fun or in earnest, as they once were. A respect towards a well-to-do administrative rule is more in evidence today, perhaps, than it ever has been. And, but for the unthinking allowing themselves to be deceived by the hypocrisies of the corruptionist, who seems at times to have neither a fear of God nor respect for the higher ethics, a canvass for votes might, perhaps, be looked upon with more complacency. The task of reform must however begin somewhere. And the maturing of a high respect for a right administrative rule and the emphasizing of a communal disrespect towards those who do not care what kind of rule there is in the management of Canadian public affairs—municipal, provincial, or federal—as long as they themselves share in it directly or indirectly, is surely going to further the cause of National Unity in more ways than one.

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The duty involving an "equality of respect" is more or less likely, every now and again, to have thrown in its way a call for an inequality of partizan disrespect towards our Canadian statesmanship. During an election season, one would think that Canada had no statesman in its public life. The most trustworthy candidate is treated with newspaper and platform epithets that are only applicable to the least trustworthy. The virtues of our statesmen have usually to wait until history gives them their due, after oblivion has provided a hiding-place for the administrative misdemeanours and inefficiencies of those who ought never to have been selected for a place in the public life of any commonwealth. The corrective for this is in the hands of the individual voter, who should stand aloof from the partyite canvasser and strenuously refuse to betray his own judgment by deifying the personal virtues of a statesmanship, even though the public interest places him in a quandary as to its demands for the moment, or by glorifying the inefficiencies of a candidate who does not know what statesmanship means either in the abstract or in the concrete. In a word, an "equality of respect" towards his fellow-citizens on the part of the voter is always a token of the high value he attaches to his birthright of citizenship.

